

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 FTC-01 /127 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7728
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION GENEVA

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USEEC

GENEVA ALSO FOR MTN

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: EEC, ETRD
SUBJECT: EC ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION OF SYNTHETIC FIBER
FROM US

REF: BRUSSELS 09918

1. A DELEGATION FROM DUPONT ATTENDED A MEETING WITH EC OFFICIALS ON JULY 6 CONCERNING THE EC ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION OF SYNTHETIC FIBER BY US PRODUCERS. BOTH HANS BESELER, CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING AND EC OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF ANTI-DUMPING, AND MISSION OFFICERS HAD THOUGHT A CONFRONTATION SESSION WITH US AND EC COMPANIES WOULD TAKE PLACE AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL. BECAUSE EC COMPANIES WERE UNWILLING TO ATTEND, THE "CONFRONTATION SESSION" TURNED INTO A PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN EC OFFICIALS AND
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THE DUPONT DELEGATION. MISSION OFFICERS WERE INVITED BY BOTH SIDES TO STAY FOR THIS SESSION WHICH LASTED ABOUT THREE HOURS.

2. EC OFFICIALS BEGAN THE SESSION BY EXPLAINING THE NATURE OF THE COMMISSION'S INQUIRY INTO POSSIBLE ANTI-DUMPING BY US PRODUCERS -- DUPONT AND ALLIED CHEMICAL --

OF POLYAMIDE AND POLYESTER HIGH TENACITY YARN FOR TIRES, MACHINERY, AND PLANT. THEY ALSO ASKED DUPONT OFFICIALS TO ELABORATE ON THEIR COMPANY'S RESPONSE TO THE EC QUESTIONNAIRE.

3. DUPONT OFFICIALS STARTED THEIR PRESENTATION BY POINTING OUT THE INDUSTRIAL AND NON-INDUSTRIAL DISTINCTIONS IN THE SYNTHETIC FIBER MARKET. DUPONT, THEY MAINTAINED, IS INVOLVED IN THE INDUSTRIAL (HEAVY DUTY, HIGH QUALITY) SIDE OF THIS MARKET, MAINLY SUPPLYING TIRE MANUFACTURERS. THEY EXPLAINED THAT DUPONT'S SHARE OF THE MARKET HAD NOT INCREASED BUT DECREASED IN RECENT TIMES, AND THEY DEFENDED THEIR PRICING POLICIES AND THE DIFFERENCES IN THOSE POLICIES BETWEEN US AND EUROPEAN OPERATIONS OF DUPONT. THEY CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT THE FACTS DID NOT JUSTIFY AN ANTI-DUMPING COMPLAINT AGAINST DUPONT.

4. COMMISSION OFFICIALS INDICATED TO DUPONT THAT THEY WOULD PROBABLY LIMIT THEIR INVESTIGATIONS TO THE TWO MAJOR EXPORTS OF DUPONT TO THE EC -- I.E. DUPONT FIBERS NOS. 714 AND 728. THEY SAID THAT THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE TO ARRANGE TO INSPECT INVOICES AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF DUPONT'S OPERATIONS. DUPONT OFFICIALS PROMISED TO SEND MISSION A COPY OF THEIR FORMAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMISSION.

5. ON JULY 7, COMMISSION HELD SIMILAR SESSION WITH ALLIED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHEMICAL (USEC WAS NOT INVITED TO SIT IN). FOLLOWING THIS SESSION, COMMISSION OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF CASE TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT INITIAL ASSESSMENT, AFTER MEETINGS WITH BOTH FIRMS, WAS THAT EACH HAD DONE SOME DUMPING WITH ALLIED BEING BY FAR MORE CULPABLE. HE STATED THAT NEXT COURSE OF ACTION WILL MOST LIKELY BE TRIP BY EC OFFICIALS TO US OFFICES OF BOTH FIRMS. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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